

Unit 12

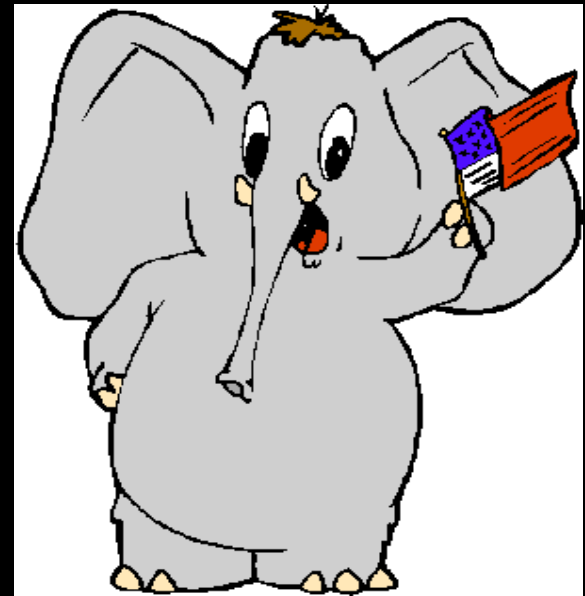


The Conservative Resurgence: 1980-1993



Liberals

- ✓ Gov't should help those in need
- ✓ Gov't can improve life for all Americans
 - ✓ Social programs
 - ✓ Minority rights
 - ✓ Industry regulation
- ✓ International diplomacy



Conservatives

- ✓ Free market, private orgs, individuals help needy
- ✓ Gov't limits individual freedom
 - ✓ Low taxes
 - ✓ De-regulation
- ✓ Traditional values
- ✓ Anticommunism

Democrats Lose Appeal



- ✓ Vietnam War
- ✓ Urban riots
- ✓ Counterculture
- ✓ Women & minorities competing for jobs
- ✓ Watergate
- ✓ Oil crisis
- ✓ Iran hostage crisis
- ✓ Stagflation (high prices + stagnate economy)
- ✓ Higher taxes

Conservative Criticism of Liberals



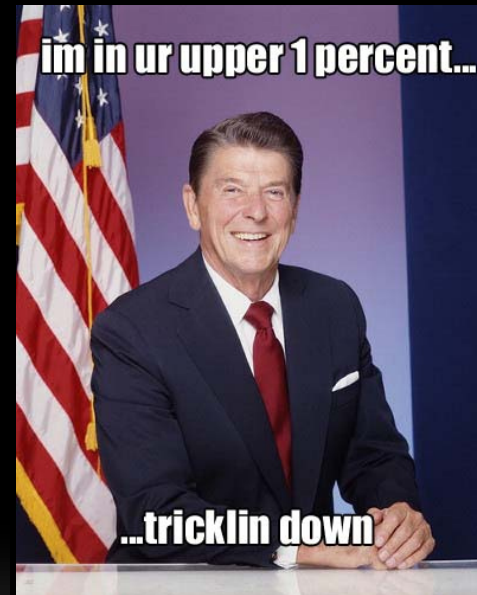
- ✓ Counterculture
- ✓ High taxes
- ✓ Unfunded mandates
- ✓ Welfare
- ✓ Affirmative action
- ✓ School busing
- ✓ Religious values

Reagan Wins 1980 Election



- ✓ Charismatic speaker
- ✓ Optimistic
 - ✓ Prosperity & patriotism
- ✓ Small government
- ✓ Big military
- ✓ Traditional religious values
- ✓ Liberals are elitist and think they know better than you

Reaganomics



- ✓ Supply-side economics
 - ✓ Low taxes -> people have more \$ -> economy grows -> gov't gets more taxes
 - ✓ "Trickle-down" cuts for wealthy
 - ✓ Budget slash (NOT military)
 - ✓ Deregulation

- ✓ Economy seemed to recover BUT
 - ✓ Growing rich/poor income gap
 - ✓ Debt = \$1.5 trillion (3 x debt of all 39 previous presidents!!)
 - ✓ Expensive cleanup due to deregulation
 - ✓ Environmental cleanup
 - ✓ Financial bailouts

Conservatism Grows



- ✓ 1984 Reagan re-elected
 - ✓ “It is morning in America”
- ✓ Rehnquist Court
 - ✓ O’ Connor, Scalia & Kennedy
- ✓ 1988 Bush Sr. elected
 - ✓ “Read my lips: no new taxes”

Challenges



- ✓ Banking crisis
- ✓ HUGE national debt
- ✓ Social Security \$\$
- ✓ Education scores down
- ✓ AIDS epidemic

You Do It

- ✓ Compare how liberal (Keynesian) and conservative (Supply-Side) economics work.
- ✓ Take a look and write down what might be the upsides and downsides of each.

Reagan Challenges Communism



- ✓ Largest peacetime military buildup in US history (SDI)
- ✓ Funding anticommunists
 - ✓ Mujahadeen
 - ✓ Contras
 - ✓ El Salvador
- ✓ Gorbachev reforms Soviet diplomacy & economy
 - ✓ *Glasnost*
 - ✓ *Perestroika*

Cold War Ends



- ✓ 1989 Berlin Wall “falls”
- ✓ Communists lose power in Eastern Europe
 - ✓ Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, Yugoslavia
- ✓ Soviet Union separates into 15 independent republics
- ✓ Bush & Yeltsin pledge cooperation

Trouble Persists



- ✓ Israel & Palestine
- ✓ Marines in Lebanon
- ✓ Libya bombing
- ✓ Iran-Contra affair

You Do It



- ✓ What is the Iran-Contra affair all about?
- ✓ What do you think about it? Justifiable?

US Foreign Policy After Cold War



- ✓ Regional conflict, not peace
 - ✓ US troops arrest Noriega
 - ✓ Tiananmen Square
 - ✓ Apartheid in S. Africa
 - ✓ Civil war in Yugoslavia
 - ✓ Marines in Somalia

Persian Gulf War



1. Iraq takes control of Kuwait's oil reserves
2. UN resolution demands Iraqi troops withdraw
3. Operation Desert Storm
 - ✓ 5 weeks aerial bombing
 - ✓ 5 days ground war
4. Bush: "We've kicked the Vietnam syndrome once & for all" ??